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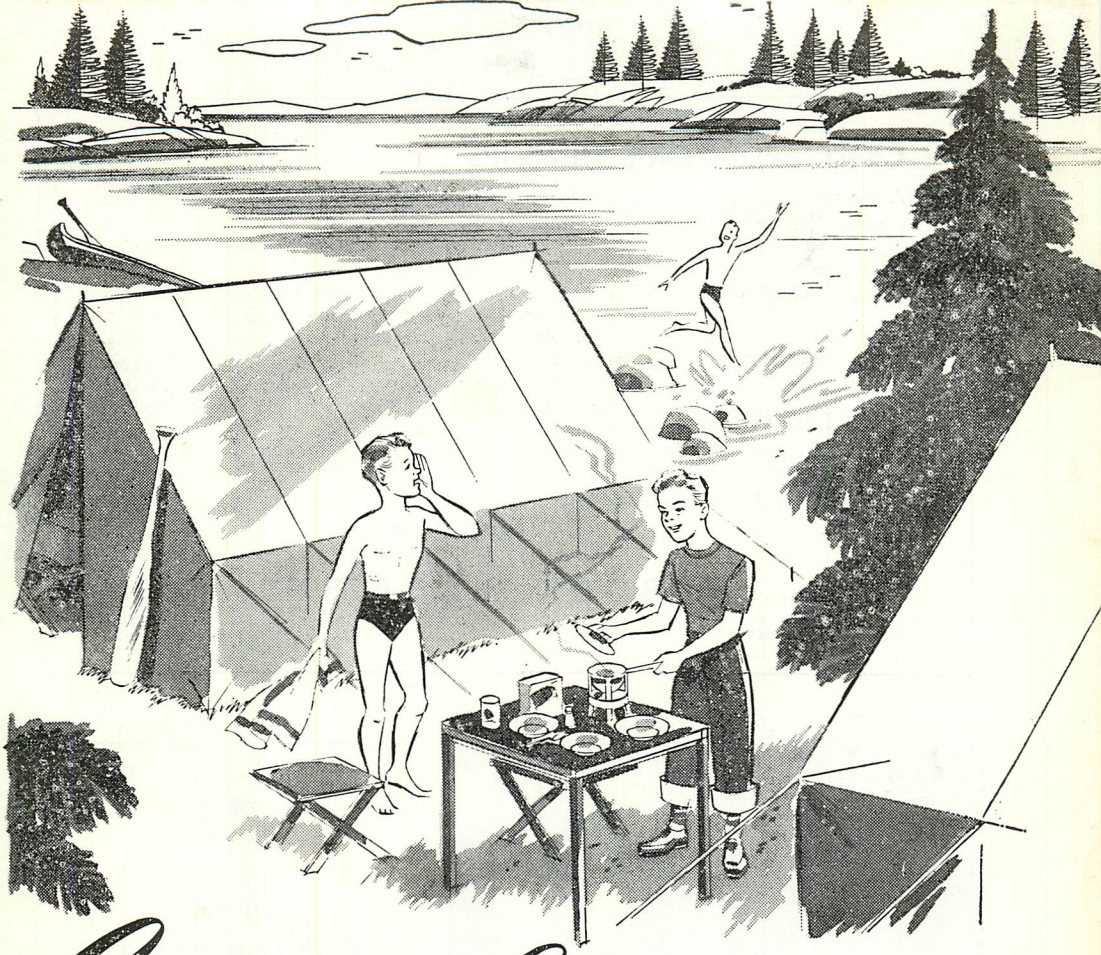

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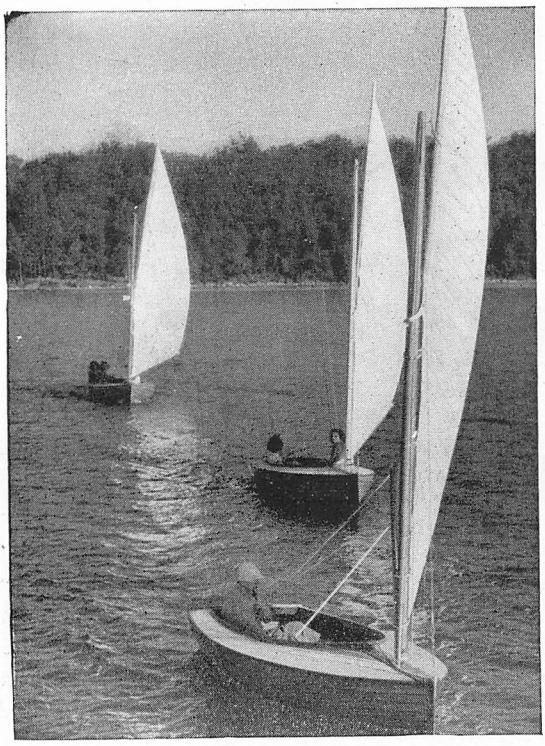

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CANADIAN CAMPING

Vol. II DECEMBER, 1950 No. 4

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A Christmas Greeting

A. L. COCHRANE

As I write, early snowflakes are falling and mingling with the few last leaves as they flutter to the ground. Winter is here! Yet, "If Winter comes can Spring be far behind?" A happy remembrance of the past summer is recalled by a Prayer of Thanksgiving, delivered at the close of a northern camp, of which this excerpt is given:

"Our God and Father, we meet in Thy worship for the last time that we shall all be together, and in Thy presence we bow in thankfulness, in praise and in humble petition. We thank Thee for the guidance that has blessed this camp through another season, keeping our members safe, secure and happy in the enjoyment of Thy unspoiled creation. We thank Thee for the development of body and mind in good times shared. We thank Thee for the beauty of the woods and waters; for the care-free, outdoor life; for the new occupations and interests and for all the lessons learned through living together."

While recalling many happy memories of the past summers, it is to the future that we turn our vision. Now is the time to prepare for "next year."

The "Old Guard" of the organized camping movement will cordially welcome new or younger members willing to take an active part in the promotion of this most worthy cause. What ideas have you, dear fellow member, or what contribution can you make toward the common good? Do not forget that the editor of this, your magazine, is eager to hear from you and to receive suggestions, queries or even "beefs" that may lead to a constructive interchange of ideas.

In concusion and at this Festive Season, "A Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all."

Mr. A. L. Cochrane is Honorary President of the Canadian Camping Association. He began trip-camping with boys in 1900, and since then, he has directed Camp Temagami for fifty seasons.

"God bless the little things this Christmas tide,
All the little world things that live outside;
Little cold robins and rabbits in the snow;
Give them good faring and a warm place to go.
All the little young things, for His sake who died,
Who was a little thing, too, at Christmas tide."

THE ART of Story Telling

MARY S. EDGAR,
Director, Glen Bernard Camp.

Last summer a group of counselors-in-training were gathered by the fireside in my cabin, for a talk on "The Art of Story Telling". It was the end of a busy camp day; the rain was beating against the windows; the fire burned brightly and the setting was perfect for stories. But I was scheduled for a *lecture* on story telling! Maybe it was a lucky break for the "Subs" that my notes had somehow been misplaced. "Just tell us stories instead!", they begged, "and some other time give us the notes." So that is what happened that rainy night. In the flicker of the firelight, I told story after story to a group of eighteen-year-olds, and no small child ever gave more rapt attention to a bedtime story than did those almost-grown-up campers.

They had probably heard most of the stories before, for the tales have been told and retold to each succeeding group of campers for many summers, but there was the same eager response —the thrill of expectancy—the shining eyes and the clamor for "just one more", which is an inspiration and unfailing satisfaction to any story teller. It was just an illustration of the accepted fact that we never become too grown-up to enjoy stories. Combined with woodfire and candlelight stories or poetry can grip the interest and stir the emotions of any group, young or old.

It is because of the potential value of story telling in camp that we should place more and more emphasis on it in our evening programs. We should plan more opportunities for training and arrange to give counselors more chances to tell stories. Just as we learn to do by doing, so, too, we learn to tell stories by telling them. Camp directors can give a great deal of encouragement to would-be story tellers by providing them with suitable stories to tell; by giving them suggestions about how to prepare and tell a story, and by arranging a definite time and place for them to meet their audience—perhaps at first a cabin group or a camping trip group, then a larger audience such as a section, and later possibly the entire camp group at a campfire or chapel service.

Eventually the missing notes on "The Art of Story Telling" were located. It is with the hope that they might be of interest to a wider group, that they are condensed in this article.

The art of story telling is the oldest art in the world. Long before there were books or scrolls written, there were stories told. In fact, that was the only way the oldest tales of every race were passed on and preserved, though a tremendous wealth of material has been lost. In the early days of every primitive people and, in fact, through long centuries, the story teller was a very

important person. What books, newspapers, radio, theatres and television mean to our age, the art of the story teller meant to an earlier age. He passed down the myths, the legends, the fables and the great stories of his country's heroes and history.

One of the great masters of the art of story telling was Jesus. His stories made a lasting impression on those who heard them. Some of the stories or parables were learned from His own keen observation, like the Sower, some perhaps, were experiences remembered from childhood, like the story of the Lost Coin. However, many, probably, were stories to which He, too, had once eagerly listened, like the Prodigal Son and the Talents. These stories were remembered and retold for many long years before they were written down and preserved for us.

In a later age of chivalry and adventure, the troubadour sang his ballads and the story teller told his tales in all the courts of Europe and Asia, and his was the seat of honor by the fire—sometimes in great castle halls and sometimes by the gypsyfire under the stars.

Compared to the past, story telling in the present day is almost a lost art. There are story hours occasionally on the radio and in children's libraries, but the story teller is, for the most part, a professional in an uncrowded profession. We must not, however, overlook the fact that a vast company of fathers and mothers still tuck their children into bed and cheerfully respond to the urgent demand for a story. Happy is the child who has memories of bed-time stories!

If there is any place, however, where the art of story telling should be properly revived, it is in the summer camp, where every year increasing numbers of boys and girls gather around the campfire, just as the primitive folk and the Indians and Pioneers did in the long ago. Away from the many competitive, commercial attractions of the city, the story teller regains his prestige and has amazing opportunities to transport a responsive audience to new worlds of adventure and romance.

Anyone can master the art of story telling, provided they are keen enough about it. The most important way to make a story interesting is to be really interested in it yourself. Therefore, choose a story you *like*. Memorize it, or at least familiarize yourself with the sequence of events. In imagination, see things happen in *technicolor* as you describe them. Know the plot so well that no small disturbance can throw you off the trend of the story. Remember that each story, well told, has a good beginning, a climax and a satisfactory ending. You need not apologize for telling the same story over and over again. If it is worth telling once, it is worth repeating.

There are many inherent values in story telling. There is a physical value. It is relaxing just to listen to a tale unfold. Bed-time stories, if they are not too exciting, promote a gradual drowsiness on the part of small children. It is an excellent custom in a junior camp to have stories told in each cabin for about twenty minutes after the children are tucked into bed. There is a tendency to settle down more quickly and it provides insurance against homesickness.

There is an educational value as well. Stories reveal life in different surroundings and various periods in world history. Like a magic carpet, a story can transport one to far-away lands and long-ago days, and one can relive the dramatic experiences of the great men and women of fiction and biography.

A good story may have tremendous influence in character building. Through the strivings and courage, the daring and idealism of others, we are often inspired to emulate their deeds.

There is a vast wealth of material available. Many modern children's

books are enchanting. Many of the oldest tales are being republished and dressed up with beautiful illustrations. Let us not neglect poetry. The stories in narrative poems are easy to learn. There are ballads with a rich store of excitement and romance, and many nonsense rhymes are popular in camp life. The range of fine stories is almost unlimited.

The ideal story teller is one whose love for life gives zest to what he says and does, whose sense of humor is unfailing; one who has a sympathetic interest in all kinds of people, and a sense of wonder for the amazing out-of-doors. From his art of story telling, he not only gives lavishly of entertainment and inspiration, but he gains rich rewards for himself, and is humbly grateful that he is a channel through which may pass to others some of the treasures of the story world.

A story is a magic key to a child's mind and heart.
Wise teachers and parents should make full use of it.

ANGELO PATRI.

The Camp Directors Dividends

BRUNO MORAWETZ, M.A.,
Camp Ponacka.

I once asked a young woman how it feels to be a mother. Her reply was: "It is wonderful. Of course, sometimes I get annoyed, but when I go into the baby's room in the morning and there she lies awake, smiling at you, that second alone is worth everything in the world."

There are many incidents in the life of a camp director which are worth "everything in the world.' Who would forego the opportunity of reading a story to a group of tired little boys, safely tucked in? The priceless gems that strike your ear after "lights out" and the overheard conversations meant for "men" only, are ample return for a hectic day.

What camp director does not love to sit in the evening listening to the counselor's stories of the day's highlights. Still better times are the evenings in the fall and winter, when irksome worries have vanished, when the toil is forgotten, and only the fruits remain.

When my mind wanders back to the good days at camp, the first thing to strike me is the wholesomeness of camp life. I rejoice in the laughing faces, hearty appetites, the thrill of the beginner's first strokes, the satisfaction from a thing made with two little hands, the manliness after a hard trip, the welcome of a parcel, the compassion of the nurse, the counselor's enthusiasm, the affection of a new friendship,

the excitement before Indian Council Fire, the vehemence in friendly competition, the silly questions, the blush of a trespasser, the fervor on the portage, the rapture of discovery, the embarrassingly good memory of youth, the warmth of the sun, the glistening stars, the songs of nature, the animals, the woods. Much of this is any man's heritage.

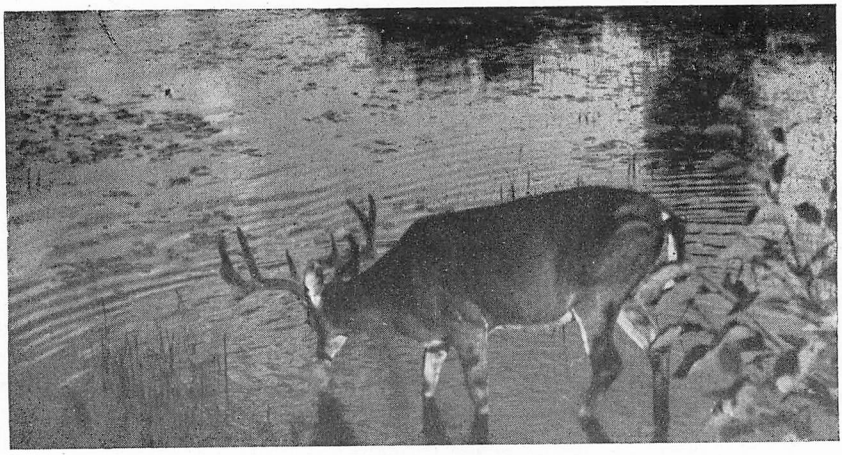
The camp director's unique privilege is his campers. I shall never cease to marvel at the sincerity and honesty of young boys. That alone is worth "everything in the world". In a small camp like ours, we can afford to be underorganized at times. In any family there is sometimes less and sometimes more at the dinner table. At outdoor suppers the hot dogs are sometimes counted and sometimes not. The line forms for "firsts", then "seconds", "thirds" and so on. No one keeps track of each boy's consumption, yet I am sure that each boy joins the line where he belongs. Here, trust is honoured.

Our boys are penalized for leaving their belongings where they should not be. The penalty is one-quarter of a precious chocolate bar, available once every two days. Often an item is found without a name tag. Knowing how careless boys are of their belongings, I find it remarkable that they will claim ownership of a torn, unclean sock at the expense of a cherished sweet. At the end of camp the tuck balance is made up. I know I can trust my campers to report what craft materials they have used and extras which may not have been listed. Children are so refreshing in their unconcern for wealth.

When the boys leave, a lump forms in your throat, yet the director can not help but feel deeply satisfied. Sometimes a boy even says "thank you" as you bid him farewell.

Camp is over and letters come to your door. Some are from parents, some imposed by parents. John is now willing to join in group games. Dick has gained more self-confidence than was deemed possible. Bob now has made the basketball team. Fred has taken on a paper route to save for next year's camp. The Children's Aid Society reports that the boy we sponsored at camp is at last able to adjust to a foster home.

You browse through your snaps of the past summer. Hundreds of memories surge up, little things completely gone from your memory. You pause and let them flow—these are the camp director's dividends.



Camp Sanitary Facilities

R. K. CLEVERDON, M.A.Sc., P.Eng,
University of Toronto. Director, Camp Kandalore.

The high standard of health which we know is so important in our modern Canadian camps, depends to a very large degree upon the standards which we set for our sanitary facilities. Safe drinking water, adequate refrigeration, and the correct disposal of kitchen and human wastes are essential if we are to keep our campers and our camps healthy. So often in the past, serious camp illnesses and epidemics of a minor nature have been traced back to inadequate sanitary precautions. In this article it is proposed to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the various methods available to the camp for the disposal of human wastes.

At the bottom of the scale we find the crude open pits surrounded by a burlap screen, the only sanitary precaution consisting of a pile of sand and a shovel. Such methods were originally copied from army field manuals of the Boer War vintage, and since they leave so much to be desired, will be dismissed with a cursory "not suitable". Regardless of how short the camp term may be, or how limited the budget, the absolute minimum must be a completely covered painted box, with a tight-fitting lid, used in conjunction with a hole in the ground. Screening is essential, as is the daily application of chloride of lime. Wood ashes are also helpful. Flyspraying of the area is advised. Such methods are only intended for one or two week camps, but if properly understood, are sufficiently suitable.

Progressing to the next level of development, we find the camp copy of that time-honored feature of the farm, save perhaps only for the last year's edition of the mail order catalogue. Despite its many disadvantages, the open-pit privy, as it is correctly called, is still the most common type of camp toilet, and will probably remain so for many years to come. It consists of a hole dug in the ground, a frame building and certain minor additions. Its principal disadvantage is that the waste material is destroyed at a very slow rate if at all, and the building must therefore be moved frequently. Throughout its life the privy is thus subject to the invasion by flies. The moving of the building is facilitated by erecting the structure on two cedar or red oak skid logs firmly braced at each end; the building can then be moved easily by a truck or a team of horses. The life of the privy in each location can be extended by frequent application of wood ashes during the summer, and a heavy layer of ashes and lye at the end of camp. This seems to speed up the disintegration of the excrement. Daily applications of chloride of lime, fly spray, and daily washing of the seats are recommended. The floors and seats should be painted. The building itself should be flytight, have a screened ventilator near the top and spring hinges on the door. All seats must have covers; regular toilet seats with covers can be purchased for about seven dollars, and will greatly improve the appearance of

the privy. A sign posted inside each privy, requesting those using it to shut the seat covers on leaving, will be found to be useful. One precaution must be mentioned: frequently there are holes around the sides of the building through which flies can gain access to the pit. This is serious, and must be checked regularly throughout the season. It can be remedied easily by boards or dirt piled against the building. It must be emphasized that although the pit privy is very commonly used, it is at its best an absolute minimum standard. Careful attention to the daily inspection is essential. Otherwise serious health difficulties may result.

More and more camps are adopting the next refinement — the semi-septic tank, often called the "bucket a day" type. This consists of a steel (or occasionally concrete) tank buried in the ground, over which sits a hopper-type china closet bowl connected to the tank by a 12 inch drop tube. The outlet of the steel tank is connected by a short length of steel pipe to a line of field tile, which in turn leads to a leeching pit. The tank is ventilated by a three inch pipe connected to the back of the closet and running through the roof of the building. One pail of water must be added daily to ensure the proper action of the tank. The tank operates on the septic tank principle, which may be described in a very simple way: The solids settle to the bottom of the tank, where they are attacked by bacteria present in the liquid. Gas is formed on the surface of the solid particles by this bacteria action while at the same time the solids are partially disintegrated. Due to the buoyancy of the gas, the particles rise to the surface, the gas is liberated through the ventilator, and the particles settle to the bottom of the tank to repeat the process. The semi-septic tank toilet lacks the flushing effect and other advantages of the regular septic tank system for which running water is required, but it appears to have the same general type of action. About 90% of the solid material is completely disintegrated by the process. However, since the tank will eventually have to be cleaned of the inert solids and any foreign matter, a cleanout hole with lid is fitted to most tanks. The principal disadvantages are that the action does not entirely destroy the waste, a strong smell is noticed under certain conditions, the steel tank must be located directly beneath the closet, which may be awkward in rocky terrain, and sometimes the droptube gets clogged from paper.

Certain points in the installation must be attended to carefully, and since some camps may wish to purchase the materials and install the toilets themselves, they will be mentioned. The tank should be completely buried, and this should be done before the building is erected over top where possible. The outlet should be connected by threaded three inch pipe about one foot long to the first length of standard four inch farm tile. The rest of the tile pipes should be spaced one-quarter inch apart, the joints being covered by tar paper to stop dirt falling in, and the whole buried by about 18 inches of sand. Ten feet of tile should be sufficient, but the end tile should lead to a pit about 3 feet square by 18 inches deep, filled with large stones and covered by boards and earth. The droptube from the closet bowl must be copper (galvanized iron will rust through in two years), and must be tightly attached to the steel tank. The joint can be caulked with oakum and pitch. The ventilator pipe from the closet through the roof should be galvanized iron or aluminum, and should be carried up the inside of the roof to as high a point as possible to ensure good draft. A metal roof flashing is used to keep the roof watertight, and a "no down draft" type of top fitting is added. Down draft caused by too short a ventilator pipe, overhanging

trees, or the omission of the fitting, is the cause of most of the offensive odour. The closet should have a regular toilet seat and cover. Steel septic tanks with provision for from one to six toilets may be purchased. A single toilet outfit with a 120 gallon tank (no smaller is recommended) will cost about $100 to $125, plus installation. The costs are proportionate on larger installations, though careful purchasing will effect some economies. As soon as the toilet is installed, the tank should be filled with water, and the addition of some baker's yeast appears to help start the septic action. Under all ordinary conditions, this type of toilet installation should give years of trouble-free service. It is unquestionably the best system yet devised for the camp setting.

For those camps with larger budgets, or where the living quarters are close enough together to allow the grouping of sanitary facilities, the final refinement will be discussed. The flush toilet, using running water and disposing of the waste by a septic tank, is the best possible solution to the problem. Some camps may wish to use the "bucket a day" type in the outlying portions of the camp, and install a regular washroom for staff, visitors or general use in the main area. Since this type of toilet is commonly used throughout our cities, no description is necessary, but a few figures and suggestions may be helpful. To begin with, a supply of running water must be available. A half-inch supply pipe will be needed for two or three units, but a three-quarter inch pipe will suffice for a battery installation. This assumes that domestic type toilets with tanks be used; the institutional toilets usually have no tank, but instead rely on the flushing action of a large volume of water under considerable pressure, supplied from the main through a so-called flush valve fitting. They should not be considered for a camp installation. The shape of the toilet bowl forms a trap in which the water seal prevents the escape of sewer gas into the room. This trap must be vented to prevent the siphoning out of this water seal and to allow the escape of such gas; usually a three inch stack is located in the vicinity of the installation, which is used to vent all the toilets and washbasins in the unit. In the typical installation there is a great deal of work behind the wall, which cannot be seen, but which must be paid for. That is why the cost may appear excessive at first glance. The waste material is carried away by a cast iron or tile sewer not less than four inches in diameter to a septic tank. A single toilet will cost about $175 installed, while a battery of three, reasonably close to one another, will cost about $400. This does not include the drain pipe from the building to the septic tank, the cost of which depends on the length of run, but will average one dollar per foot for four inch tile drain.

The septic tank is usually made of concrete. It consists of two compartments, the first in which the same sort of septic tank action previously described takes place, and the second, fed by overflow from the first, retains the effluent until a sufficient quantity is accumulated, when a siphon fitting in the tank operates to send all the liquid out into the tile disposal bed. This periodic discharge is better than a continuous gradual discharge, since it tends to flush out the tile lines. If 50 people are using the toilets connected to a septic tank daily, a capacity of 1250 gallons for the first compartment is recommended. This size is established for summer camps, where it is recognized that the frequency of use and the quantity of water is not as great as in a residence. It includes enough capacity for about four wash basins as well. A two-compartment septic tank with 1250 gallons capacity in the first compart-

ment will be about 5 feet wide, 5 feet high and 15 feet long, and should cost about $350, complete with fittings. Nothing whatsoever is gained by underdesigning a septic tank. The period for which the material is retained is reduced to the danger point, with the result that untreated sewage is discharged into the disposal bed. The tile bed for the above size of tank should have about 600 lineal feet of 4 inch drain tile where absorption is excellent as in sand, and more where it is slower. An area about 50 feet by 60 feet is needed to handle 600 feet of tile. It is difficult to estimate the cost of a tile bed, since local ground conditions are such a big item in labour costs. It would be advisable either to get some estimates locally, or buy the tile and have regular camp help install it. The liquid draining out of the tile may still contain harmful bacteria, so it must not be allowed to run into a swimming area or near a water intake line from a surface water supply.

There are a great many other points which must be considered in installing a complete septic tank system. However, the space requirements of this article will not permit a more complete treatment. The author will be pleased to deal with any specific inquiries should any camp director be contemplating such an installation.

And finally, to deal with one more point. How many toilets do we need in a camp? Separate units are required for staff and visitors, and so the answer here depends on the location of the staff quarters in the camp. As for the campers, the usual figure is one toilet to each ten children, but not less than two toilets in any living area. Probably a four toilet unit would be sufficient for any section of a camp, even up to about 60 children, should the sections be that large. It is recommended, though, in sections of that size, that two separate units be installed, each having either two or three toilets. Under certain conditions, semi-septic toilets can be installed right in campers' cabins, which is certainly an advantage for younger children. One to a cabin of eight boys and two counselors has been found satisfactory.

May we leave you with a parting thought? Regardless of which system you have in your camp, be always conscious of your duty to your camp to watch the sanitation carefully, be especially careful of fly precautions, and try to build up the cooperation of the campers and staff in making *your* camp as healthy and safe as your own home.

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Camps that are Different

They were coming toward me down the main street, one a sturdy lad of eleven, pushing a wheelchair in which sat his older brother, a frail, fourteen-year-old spastic. I stopped to chat with them, and David, the younger, was bubbling over as usual, with enthusiasm. "I went to camp this summer", he said, "and boy, it was grand!" He was pouring forth exuberantly about the wonderful diving tower and a canoe trip, when the wheelchair patient broke in, "I went to camp, too!" It seemed unbelievable that for a boy with jerky movements and useless legs, there could be anywhere a place offering the happy experiences of camp. He went on to tell eagerly of Merrywood Camp On-The-Rideau, where he had spent two amazing weeks.

Merrywood Camp is just one of the many camps that are ministering to children and adults with handicaps. There are in Ontario, three camps operated by the Society for Crippled Children. The one mentioned, Merrywood-On-The-Rideau, Blue Mountain Camp on Georgian Bay and Woodeden, near London, Ontario. At these camps, to be handicapped is to be normal, and the child who is too physically handicapped for an ordinary camp, will find the program adapted to his disability.

One might picture a camp for crippled children as a group of children sitting in wheel chairs, being entertained, but if they should visit one of these camps they would find a hive of activity. Swimming, as with so-called normal children, is the most popular sport and has therapeutic value. Baseball, Archery, Dramatics, Arts and Crafts and, strangely enough, over-night camping trips are very popular with even some of the most handicapped children.

The time is past when a physical handicap meant a closed door to doing the things "the normal kids do", and with this idea in mind, new horizons are opened up, which would otherwise not be attained.

Then, too, there is Illahee Lodge, the camp which is operated by the Neighbourhood Workers' Association of Toronto, and located at Cobourg, on the shores of Lake Ontario. This camp was launched in 1946 as an experiment. Its purpose is to give health and holiday care to children suffering from heart and chest conditions and diabetes. A very special set up was required and expensive equipment needed, but there have been five successful seasons and the camp is now firmly established. More than 150 children have been helped in one season. Each child is given three weeks' holiday, and his or her individual needs are carefully studied.

Though Illahee was founded primarily as a Health Centre, it has a well-rounded program of camp activities suited to its campers. There is swimming, and the beach supplies endless interest for the children. Music is emphasized and craft work is popular with both boys and girls. Some of them have even been able to enjoy the thrill of a fishing expedition and an over-night trip. Food is important at any camp, but even more so to the diabetic child whose food has to be weighed to the fraction of a gram.

Illahee Lodge has another important function, for during part of the season it becomes a camp for elderly people. There are three parties, one in early summer, and two at the end of the season, when older men and women enjoy the companionship and entertainment of camp life. More than 150 of them, all aged 60 or over, and most of them in their 70's and 80's. How they enjoy the beautiful surroundings, the good food and the opportunity of

making new social contacts. For one woman it was her first holiday since arriving in Canada twenty-nine years ago. For all of them, it is an experience they eagerly hope to repeat.

Each summer camping is becoming more popular with blind people, and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind sponsors five summer camps in different parts of Canada.

This summer, Alberta enjoyed its first experience with a summer camp, which proved very successful. The camp was situated on Sylvan Lake, halfway between Alberta's two major cities, Calgary and Edmonton.

The people of Saint John, New Brunswick, enjoyed camp activities at the Saint John Lion's Club Camp at Loch Lomond. The camp opened on July 5th and closed August 30th. There were four camp periods of two weeks each.

Approximately 100 campers attended Vancouver's ten-day camp period at Orlomah Beach, B.C. This camping venture was considered the most successful of Vancouver's camp experiences since their origin in 1948. Another camp, a few miles from Victoria, B.C., was well attended and enjoyed by residents of that city and of Vancouver Island.

Approximately 140 Ontario campers attended the two ten-day camp periods at Ancaster.

The activities enjoyed by most of these campers include active sports, such as swimming, bowling, horseshoe pitching and boating; quieter games such as cards, bingo, ring toss and beanbag throwing; group activities such as amateur performances, quiz contests, concerts, dancing and handicrafts.

These are just a few of the "camps that are different", which are contributing so much to the happiness and well being of hundreds of children and adults who now can enjoy the many pleasures of camp life, previously only available to the young and the healthy.

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International Canoe Trips

Submitted by ANNE I. VAIL
for SCOTTY BROTMAN

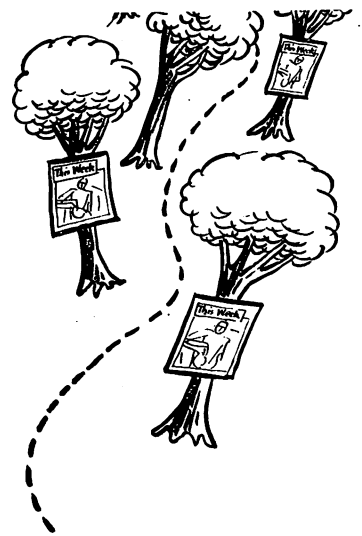
Canoe tripping is an important part of Canadian Camping, and a unique venture was reported at a meeting of the Quebec Camping Association on November 24th.

Scotty Brotman loves the out-of-doors and is a keen and enthusiastic camper. For the past five seasons, Scotty has led a crew of eight on a trip from Montreal to New York. He initiated these trips because they bring a great deal of enjoyment and because he firmly believes that there is no better way of training campers to take care of themselves. Scotty also heads his own personal crusade to bring adults in touch with the outdoors and he takes every opportunity to publicize canoe trips as a healthy, enjoyable and inexpensive way of spending leisure time.

These canoe trips have been a great success. It is not often that a group of young men in this country travel over four hundred miles in such a frail craft as a nineteen foot canoe.

The route taken by these hardy paddlers starts at Victoria Pier in Montreal, where they push off across the swift running water of the St. Lawrence to St. Lambert on the southern shore. Here the canoe is taken out of the water and, to save some eighty miles, trucked to St. Jean's, Quebec, and there it is put on the waters of the Richelieu River. From there the paddlers travel down the river to Lake Champlain (shades of history and Kenneth Roberts) on the first real leg of the marathon journey. They pass the Canadian Customs at Lacolle and the American Customs at Rouses Point.

Then comes the long bout down Lake Champlain, often a very rough stretch of water even in the summer. It is not unusual to have to fight five foot waves! When these combine with the heavy backwash of the large ships



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This Week MAGAZINE

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that ply the lake, there is many an exciting moment, requiring clever steering and heavy paddling to keep the canoe from being swamped.

From Ticonderoga, the canoe cuts west along the Ticonderoga River to Lake St. George. This is regarded as the highlight of the trip, for the St. George boasts the loveliest scenery and clearest water in all New York State. In fact, the lake is known as the Lake Louise of the east! On reaching the southermost tip, the canoe is again put on a truck and taken to the Hudson River, around the Hudson Falls. Then it's down the Hudson, through innumerable locks to New York City.

Scotty, in telling of the 1950 trip, stressed the fellowship, the magnificent hospitality of our neighbors, the friendships made and renewed, and the many lessons in cooperation, where the individual must be concerned first with the safety and happiness of the whole crew.

Such a canoe trip, with all its meaning, is an integral part of the tremendous privilege of Camping in Canada.

EXTRA!
Exciting News!

The Canadian Camping Association has passed another milestone, and the Executive is proud to announce that we now have a National Office. After exploring all kinds of possibilities, such as joint premises, being housed in other people's offices, we finally decided it was time to act, not to plan. In October, we signed the lease. Full of hope and irrepressible enthusiasm, we surveyed our large room, complete with a good sized cupboard, two large windows and bare walls and floors. The address is 771 BURNSIDE, Montreal; telephone Harbour 4350. (Eaton's parking lot is just across the street.)

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E. O. Harbin $3.85
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Facts of Life and Love for Teen-Agers
Evelyn M. Duvall $3.85
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We are modest in our plans, but in no time at all, we had a rug for the floor, had purchased a typewriter desk and chair, and borrowed a typewriter to be used until we find the one we want to buy. At a rummage sale, we secured a standard lamp and a beautiful McCaskel photograph, "Marine". Fifty bricks and some boards lent by a camp will provide a book-case; two tables and a few chairs, loans from other camps, will give us working space. Other things we know will arrive, because Dais Gass, our Past President, convenes a committee on Office Furnishings.

Agnes Mutchler has been appointed part-time Executive Secretary. The office will be open mornings, and Agnes and your President, Anne Vail, will get the office organized. Dorothy Percival can now clear her apartment of membership files and work with them at the office. Ruby Smith will look after pamphlets and books, and Dais Gass will make the place look beautiful, though simple and campy. We already have our filing cabinets. There are volunteers who will gladly assist now that we have our own place in which to work and keep things ship-shape. Evenings will see much work accomplished.

No more stalling! No more delays while we look for things that *could be* in any of three or four offices! What a joy!

Two Counselors are working on a map of Canada for the wall, and we'll pin our members to the map! Will you be there? Make sure by joining, if you are not already a member. Let us all get behind the CCA and make it an association of which we can be proud, because through it we serve the Camping interests and needs of Canadians.

We are ready to roll—give us a push!

ANNE I. VAIL.

Course on Outdoor Living

A course of ten lectures has been arranged by the University Extension Department of the University of Toronto, beginning at 8 p.m., on January 10th, 1951. The director of the course is Miss Margaret Govan, Ontario Camping Association and director of Camp Onawaw. The following lectures will be given:

1. Jan. 10—General Introduction—the camp trip. Representative, Department of Lands and Forests.
2. Jan. 17—Preparing for a camp trip —map-reading—how to choose a camp site. Douglas Conney, Boy Scouts Association.
3. Jan. 24—Overall picture of the things seen on a trip. A. F. Coventry, Department of Zoology.
4. Jan. 31—Being comfortable on a trip—using nature's facilities: woods for fire-making, edible plants, etc. C. R. Blackstock, Pickering College, Newmarket.
5. Feb. 7—Animals met on the trip. Andy Lawrie, Department of Zoology.
6. Feb. 14—Rocks encountered on the trip and what they mean. V. B. Meen, Royal Ontario Museum of Geology and Mineralogy.
7. Feb. 21—What to do on a wet or windy day. Andy Lawrie, Department of Zoology.
8. Feb. 28—Camp Crafts. Ellsworth Jaeger, Buffalo Museum of Science.
9. March 7—Camp Sketch Book — painting. John A. Hall, Department of Art and Archaeology.
10. March 14—General summing up and recourse material. Miss Margaret Govan, Ontario Camping Association.

Application forms may be obtained from University of Extension, Simcoe Hall, Toronto. Fee for the entire series —$6.00. No academic requirements

Book Reviews

YOUR OWN BOOK OF CAMP-CRAFT: By Catherine T. Hammett. Published, 1950, by the Pocket Book Jrs. Obtainable in Canada from G. R. Welch Co., Toronto, 25c.

The "Raison d'etre" of this book is "How to have more fun outdoors—the where, why and how of successful camping", and no one is better qualified to write on this subject than Catherine Hammett. She is, herself, a camper of high repute. Recently, she was in charge of the Girl Scout Camps of U.S.A., and now directs her own training centre for outdoor living in Vermont.

It is a practical guide to fun outdoors and will appeal to anyone from picnicker to the wilderness camper. Assuming that most of us are campers at heart, the book begins with a challenge: "Come on Out!", and then proceeds to set forth the unsurpassed fun of camping, by chapter after chapter, crammed with the practical ideas useful or necessary for successful outdoor life. Here are some of the skills described in simple step-by-step fashion: packing food and equipment, fire building, lashing, preparing a bedroll, tent pitching, cooking, fun around the campfire.

Prepared by an expert, under the auspices of the American Camping Association, this book will prove an invaluable aid to every camper, whether experienced or a beginner—it is such an inexpensive and well-illustrated manual, that it will definitely meet a need for every camp-craft counselor as a reference book.

CANADA, YOUR COUNTRY: By J. W. Chafe. Published by the Ryerson Press, June 1950, Toronto; pp. 395; price, $1.45.

Anyone who can tell the stories of Canada's early days and captivate the imaginations of boys and girls, has rendered a tremendous service to our country. Can you remember how dull-as-dust were some of our old school history books? This book, "Canada, Your Country", is a school book prepared for Grades VI to VIII, but it will be read for pleasure as well as information. The author uses numerous anecdotes which make historical characters real-life people. Often at camp, in preparing talks, we would be happy to have such a book at hand for illustrations of courage, pioneer-spirit, statesmanship, which have made our country what she is today. In these days of steadily-rising costs, it is amazing to find such a book of nearly four hundred pages at the surprising price of $1.45.

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COLORFUL YULE LOGS

Equally effective for the Christmas fire, or for a rainy night story-hour at camp, these logs with their gorgeous colors, will evoke exclamations of delight and create the magic atmosphere needed for "Once upon a time". Incidentally, they are excellent to use as novelty gifts and are easy and inexpensive to make.

These logs are made from old magazines or newspapers of the desired length and thickness, rolled tightly and tied securely with twine. Soak over night in the chemical solution and then allow to dry for two or three days before storing them away until required for your holiday season fires. The recipe is simple—merely mix one pound of the chemical required in a gallon of water and toss in your magazines or papers. To obtain a variety of colors in one log, soak individual sheets of paper in the different solutions, then roll the treated papers tightly and secure with string.

Chemicals required to obtain the various colors:

Green—Borax; Emerald Green—Copper nitrate; Apple Green—Barium nitrate; Red—Strontium nitrate; Violet—Potassium chlorate; Blue—Bluestone (copper sulphate); Yellow—Potassium nitrate or sodium chloride; Purple—Lithium chloride; Orange—Calcium chloride.

SCRAMBLES

Children, wherever they are found and however old they are, have a perennial passion for scrambles. The evening program is over and the campers, seated in a circle in the recreation hall, are about to leave. Just as they arise, the leader reaches behind a screen, pulls out a basket filled with candy kisses, and throws its contents wildly across the floor! A second or two of surprised silence, and pandemonium breaks loose as the campers dive to the happy task of filling pockets to overflowing. Or perhaps it is a half bushel of apples. Three elements make of the scramble a memorable event always the element of sudden surprise (for it should be so handled that none anticipate it), the joy resulting from the competition of the scramble itself, and the unexpected treat of something good to eat.

FISH IN A BAG

From Catherine Hammett's book, reviewed in this issue, "Your Own Book of Campcraft", we give you an interesting non-utensil recipe which seems easy to prepare and would probably taste delicious.

¼ - ⅓ lb. solid white fish per person
(cod, haddock or any fillet is good)
Salt and pepper
Lemon butter (3 tablespoons melted butter with 1 tablespoon lemon juice)
or a small piece of butter

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Heavy wax paper

Newspaper or small paper bags

Good bed of coals

Place piece of fish in a good-sized piece of wax paper; salt and pepper it, and add lemon butter or piece of butter. Wrap wax paper around fish, turning it on all sides. Then wrap well in bag or newspaper that has been soaked in water. Have a good bed of coals ready and place the packet on top of the coals; leave for about 20 to 30 minutes, depending on size of fish, turning once. If paper becomes too dry, remove from fire and wet again; then return to coals. It cooks by steaming.

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In Lighter Vein

Once there was a camper
Who disliked all kinds of work.
Whenever she could do so,
Little jobs she'd gaily shirk.

The time came round for leaving;
Trunks and bags must ready be.
While her cabin mates were packing,
Very nonchalant was she.

She left behind her sweater,
A pair of woolen hose;
Her flannel slacks and dressing gown,
And numerous other clothes.

She wrote for her belongings:
"You'll find them on the shore,
Or maybe near the swimming dock,
Or on my cabin floor."

But all those bits of wool and yarn
Are now a cosy house
At a quite deserted camp-site,
For a grateful mother mouse.

—M.S.E.

Child in Art Class: "That's a cow eating grass!"

Puzzled Art Teacher: "Indeed? Where is the grass?"

Child: "The cow ate it."

Teacher: "But where is the cow?"

Child: "She didn't stay after she ate the grass!"

A camper there was from a city
Who met what she thought was a kitty.
She gave it a pat,
And said: "Nice little cat!"
They buried her clothes out of pity!

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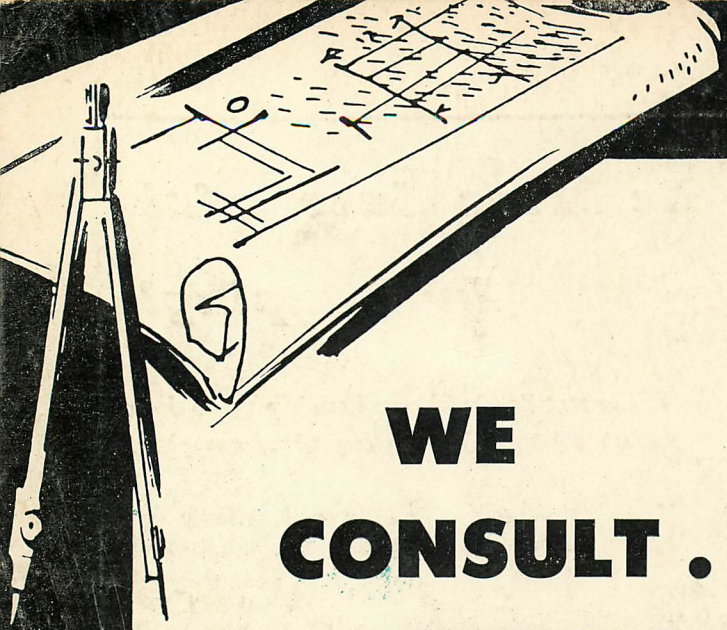

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